



NRO review(s) completed.

ARGON

*(originally not for it state, but in DISCOVERER)
(Oct. 61 - 5 added) -
(improved instrument)*

Purpose: to obtain a geodetic map of the globe, particularly in order to be able to get accurate measurements from known reference points for purposes of launching weapons systems toward targets.

The ARGON system employs statistical data processing techniques to convert rapidly the relatively inaccurate photographic ground and stellar data recovered from artificial earth satellites into an accurate worldwide survey and global location reference system compatible with modern weapon system requirements.

System Objectives: to obtain a unified worldwide reference datum and to measure geoidal deviations from ~~this datum~~ with an accuracy required to obtain an absolute accuracy of distances within 750' between any two points on the surface of the earth. The system shall further produce a location reference file of pictorial--smallscale photographic--images which will permit the tie-in of any target found on the earth's surface by semi-automatic image correlation, thus determining the location of that target with respect to the established datum.

AGREEMENT signed 7 July 1959 by RMB & Roy W. Johnson
In order to obtain max security essential that CIA exercise control of ARGON: this control to range from complete control in such areas as security and cover, to joint control with ARPA in other areas such as direction of tech aspects, including payload and 117L vehicle and systems.

AMS, prime DOD customer for product, will establish an AMS tech staff responsive to ARPA Proj Mgr and contribute its initiative and competence.

Contract thru CIA channels with Autometrics to cover exploitation of ARGON product. *(EKE to process film)*

Presented to WH(Goodpaster) for Pres approval 7 July memo from RMB, notice of approval received 21 July 1959.

product placed -
19 Jan. 1960 - ARB, under [] security system

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